

## Parental Communication & Engagement

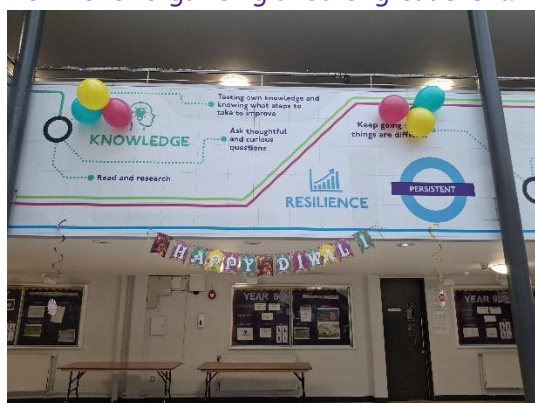


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### Message from Headteacher

On Monday, Motivational Speaker Stephen Seki came into school to speak with Year 11. Students gave lots of positive feedback and found the talk really inspiring! Please talk to your children about him and give him a google!!

On Tuesday, we held Diwali Celebrations in school. Our Diversity in Dormston programme is branching out and trying to celebrate different cultures and festivals this year to ensure our students have a greater awareness of each other's cultures and background to ensure students are educated, made aware and feel included. We had food tasting, music, henna, lamp decorating and rangoli art design. Thank you again for Mrs Downie and Miss Downie for organising another great event!



I also wanted to share the performance of our Year 7 and 8 Girls Football Team on Tuesday evening who had their first fixture against Thorns. The girls were superstars and are very excited to share their first big win of 6 - 0. A BIG Shoutout to Francesca Timperley and Lily Perkins for stepping up as captains and for my POTM - Freya Timperley and Melody Marston 😊! Well done girls and Miss Dolan!



This week, Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils took part in the Inter-house logic challenge during their Computing lessons. This involved multiple problem-solving activities and logical thinking puzzles. Not only do all pupils receive house points, but they also enter a national competition where the top 10% are invited to enter a further challenge in 2025. Well done to all pupils who got stuck in and challenged themselves! Results of the national competition will be released in the next few weeks. Go to <https://www.bebras.uk/> where you can find out more about the competition and have a go at past challenges.

Our newly elected MP has been in school today to speak to our Year 10 and 11 Citizenship students about her journey into politics from humble beginnings and why everybody should have access to the political sphere. She discussed the role of MPs and the work that she does and how Parliament works. There was a large question and answer session where our students engaged so well and gained an invaluable insight into the inner workings of democracy. This was a great experience that students have learnt so much from and hopefully, some will be inspired to go into this field - who knows, we could have a future MP among us!

Best wishes.



**Mrs Sutton**  
**Headteacher**

## Key Letters/Information Sent Out Recently

**The vast majority of all letters are now emailed home and we use electronic reply slips as much as possible.** The criterion for 'selected student only' opportunities are based on various factors depending on the trip and its focus. Unfortunately, we are unable to allow every student the opportunity to be involved with every activity which we understand sometimes causes disappointment. If you require more details about the selection process for any opportunity please contact the event organiser.

- All Parents/Carers - November/December 2024 Monthly Update Sheet;
- Year 11 Parents/Carers - Maths Intervention Sessions Letter *\*Selected Year 11 Parents/Carers;*
- Year 11 Parents/Carers - English Intervention Sessions Letter *\*Selected Year 11 Parents/Carers;*
- Year 11 Parents/Carers - Science Intervention Sessions Letter *\*Selected Year 11 Parents/Carers;*
- Year 11 Parents/Carers - English Revision Guides Letter;
- Year 11 Parents/Carers - Geography Field Trip to Wolverhampton Letter;
- Year 10 & 11 Drama Parents/Carers - War Horse Theatre Trip Letter;
- Year 10 Parents/Carers - Year 10 English Revision Guides Letter;
- New York Trip Thank You & Hard Rock Café Refund Letter;
- Choir Parents/Carers - House Arts Evening Performance Permission Letter;
- House Arts Showcase Invite Letter *\*Hard copy only/selected students!*

## Events/Reminders

- Anti-Bullying Week - WC 11 November 2024;
- Whole School Remembrance Assembly - Monday 11 November 2024;
- Odd Socks Day - Tuesday 12 November 2024;
- Christmas Card Design Competition Deadline - Friday 15 November 2024.

## Updates

### Unwanted Bags for Life?

If you have any unwanted, clean 'Bags for Life' please can they be handed in to Mrs Grundy in the Atrium or D104 on Monday morning in order to assist us with our paper recycling. Thanks 😊.

### 'Have yourself a FoDC Christmas' - WIN your Christmas Shop on FoDC!

Fancy winning a £100, £50 or £25 voucher for the supermarket of your choice to make your Christmas this year that extra bit special/cheaper? Then why not buy a ticket for our FoDC Christmas Raffle. Tickets are £1.00 each and are available on ParentPay now. Raffle closes on Friday 13 December 2024 at midnight. Winner announced and E-Voucher provided to winner shortly after. Good luck!

### Sports Matches

A polite reminder to our Parents/Carers that unfortunately parents/carers are not allowed access to the school site to watch football matches! They are however very welcome to stand by the car park fence to watch.

### Anti-Bullying Week - WC Monday 11 November 2024

Anti-Bullying Week 2024 will take place from Monday 11 - Friday 15 November 2024, with the theme: Choose Respect. Just like lots of schools across the country, we will be taking part, this year and we will be empowering children and young people to choose respect.



### Odd Socks Day - Tuesday 12 November 2024

Odd Socks Day is taking place on Tuesday 12 November, with adults and children being encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique. As part of this we are asking for donations of odd socks to be brought into school to help us to create 'sock bunting' to show our support against bullying. If any donations could be left in the odd socks box located in the atrium each morning that would be greatly appreciated!

### Instrumental Lessons with Dudley Performing Arts

Subsidised music instrumental lessons through Dudley Performing Arts are available. The cost of lessons would only be £5 a lesson, for a 15-minute group lesson, instead of the usual cost of £8.50 per lesson. Lessons are available on a wide range of instruments including Keyboard, Piano, Electric Guitar, Classical Guitar, Bass Guitar,

Ukulele, Drum Kit, Voice, Trumpet, Trombone, Cello, Violin, Saxophone, Clarinet, and Flute. Instrument hire is available on most instruments except Piano, Keyboard, Guitar and Ukulele.

In order to undertake this offer, you would need to complete the form by following this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/qTQzjcvNaE> Please email [arichardson@dormston.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:arichardson@dormston.dudley.sch.uk) once you have completed the form so the payment can be added to ParentPay. The cost will be £65, which will provide 13 lessons in the Spring term. If you qualify for Pupil Premium funding, a further discount will be applied to your ParentPay account. Payment will need to be made by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024 to secure lessons for January. Once payment is received your child will be signed up with Dudley Performing Arts, who will contact you with a lesson day and time. These will also be displayed on the Music Department notice board. Any questions please email [arichardson@dormston.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:arichardson@dormston.dudley.sch.uk)

## House Arts Update

A massive well done to all pupils who entered the House Arts competition. We saw a huge increase in entries this year, up by over 100%! Everyone who enters receives house points. All pupils should receive a letter this week with the result of their entry. Competition has been very strong this year but anyone who is disappointed should be extremely proud of their efforts. The showcase will be on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024 with the show starting at 7.00pm. The artwork will be on display from 6.30pm. At the end of the evening the winners and runners up for each category will be announced as well as the winning house being presented with the House Arts trophy. All invited parents/carers will be able to attend by replying to the letter and requesting tickets. We look forward to a fabulous show.

## Christmas Card Competition 2024

Please encourage your child to take part in this year's Christmas Card Competition.

### CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION 2024

Create a Christmas Card design based on the theme of  
**'COMMUNITY'**

Your design could be chosen for this year's official Dormston Christmas Card!

Your design will be *printed professionally* and further prizes awarded.

Plus you will receive *house points* just for entering so get designing!



Last years winner- Oliver Fellows 11DY



Hand in your completed designs to Mr Goldie or Mrs Taylor.

If your artwork is digital then email your design

to [dgoldie@dormston.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:dgoldie@dormston.dudley.sch.uk) but remember you **cannot trace someone else's design!**

**Deadline is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

## Congratulations/Well Done

Congratulations to **Hattie Jenkins - 9TY** who had a fabulous time in Amsterdam recently. Hattie bought home a bronze medal, beating a Dutch girl 7 - 0 and a Belgian 8 - 0 girl. She fought incredibly again. Well done Hattie!



Well done also goes to **Ava Mills - 9SY** who received distinction in her Grade 2 Keyboard music exam!

## **Headteacher Commendations**

Congratulations go to the following students who received Headteacher Commendations this week.

Millie Baker	Fin Beale	Annabelle Bott	Noah Chapman
Abigail Fraser	Isabelle Melbourne	Alice Miller	George Townsend